

# The American Observer

*A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe*

VOLUME XXIII, NUMBER 31

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 3, 1954

## A Good Recipe

By Walter E. Myer

**A** MAN I have long known suffered a heavy financial loss recently. An enterprise in which he had invested most of his savings ran into trouble and was forced to close down. The man lost nearly all the money he had invested.

Many people would have been bitter over such a loss. But George, as we shall call my friend, continued to be as good-humored as ever. He did not act like one who had suffered a major financial setback.

I was so impressed with George's attitude that I asked him about it one day. "No one would ever suspect that you had been a victim of misfortune," I said. "You seem to be as calm and cheerful as ever. How can you possibly conceal your troubles so well?"

George smiled. "I am not concealing anything," he said. "I honestly don't feel that I have troubles—at least, I have no big troubles. Of course, no one likes to lose a sizable sum of money as I did, but look at all that I still possess: a good job, a fine family, a home in a good community, my health, many loyal friends, citizenship in the United States. All these blessings far outweigh the financial loss I incurred. Under such circumstances, I certainly am not going around with a long face, feeling sorry for myself."

George's outlook on life is in refreshing contrast to that of a great many people. So many persons are constant complainers. They seem to spend most of their waking hours grumbling about their homes, their jobs, or the actions of other members of their families or of fellow workers. To hear these people talk, one would think they were the most unfortunate individuals on the face of the earth.

In most cases, though, the complainers have no more troubles than the average person. They fail, however, to see life in true perspective. They look only at the unpleasant and tedious aspects of their existence, and take the pleasant aspects of life for granted. If they would stop to count their blessings as compared to their losses, they would see how fortunate they are.



Walter E. Myer

Grumbling is contagious, and some young people inevitably catch the habit from their elders. You have probably known young people who are forever complaining about school. They feel that the assignments are too long, that discipline is too strict.

These complaints are probably seldom, if ever, justified. Those who voice them little realize that the opportunity to attend school is a blessing that millions of young people in other, less fortunate lands desperately desire.

Chronic complainers are bound to make themselves unhappy, and they bring displeasure to those with whom they come in contact. For those who are afflicted with this habit, there is, though, a remedy: Count your blessings. You will usually find that they far outweigh your losses.



IS THE PRACTICE of wire tapping justified in the search for spies?

## The Wire-Tap Issue

Should Our Government Use Intercepted Phone Conversations Against Accused Spies in Federal Courts?

**A**TORNEY General Herbert Brownell, Jr., wants Congress to pass a new law dealing with wire tapping. During the debate on his request, strong arguments have been put forth by those who favor wire tapping, and by those who oppose it.

Why do some people defend this practice and urge that more of it be done? Why do others denounce it? Why does Mr. Brownell want a new law enacted?

A good way to learn why wire tapping is so controversial is to ask yourself these two questions:

1. Would I like to know that any time I used a telephone, someone might be recording everything I said for possible use against me?

2. If my little brother or sister had been kidnaped, and police said they could catch the kidnaper if they were allowed to tap certain telephone lines, would I be in favor of letting them do it?

The chances are, in your answers to these two questions, you have opposed wire tapping in one instance and favored it in the other. There are things to be said both for and against the practice. In view of the Attorney General's request for new legislation, it is important to know the background of the coming debate.

What is wire tapping and how is it

done? Wire tapping is a method by which one person listens secretly to the telephone conversation of another person.

Back at the turn of the century when the telephone was comparatively new, wire tapping involved scraping the insulation off wires and attaching other wires connected to a receiver. The tapper then sat for hours with the receiver to his ear, waiting for someone to use the phone he had tapped. When conversation began, he would write down as much of it as he could.

Today, because of new inventions, wire tapping is done differently. The tapper merely connects his wires, and lets machines do the rest. The receiver he once held to his ear now is connected to a recording machine.

It even is possible now to tap a wire without touching it. A device known as an induction coil will pick up anything above a whisper if it is placed beside a line. This coil may even be on the other side of a wall from the line being tapped.

Years ago, when there were relatively few telephones in use, almost anyone could tap a wire. Today, however, wiring systems in our large cities are so complex that it takes experts to locate the proper lines.

Is wire tapping Constitutional? The  
(Concluded on page 2)

## European Army Backed by U.S.

Creation of Six-nation Force Hinges on Decisions of French and Italians

**O**UR leaders are going to be watching events closely during coming weeks in France and Italy. What takes place in those countries may mean success or failure for a project upon which we are basing our hopes for peace and security in western Europe. That project is the European Defense Community (EDC).

Under EDC, six nations would pool their armed forces under a single command. The six countries are France, Italy, Western Germany, and the so-called Benelux nations (Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg).

Instead of a separate army for each country, a single combined force would defend all six lands. Members of the European army would wear a common uniform. Planning would be done by a staff on which would serve representatives of the six member nations. All of each country's defense forces would be included in EDC except for police and for troops serving abroad—for example, in overseas possessions.

The European army would have close ties with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to which the United States, Canada, and 12 European nations belong. In case of war, the EDC troops would be under the command of NATO.

Two years ago this month the idea of a European army was approved by the foreign ministers of the six nations mentioned above. The parliament of each country, though, had to give final agreement. The law-making bodies of Western Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg have done so. France and Italy are still on the fence. Until they join with the others, the European army cannot become a reality.

Behind the EDC plan are the Soviet Union's threatening moves after World War II. Russia's aggression in eastern Europe caused the western nations to set up the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in 1949. When the communists brazenly tried to seize Korea a year later, the western powers immediately set out to strengthen their forces in Europe.

The obvious place to secure added manpower for free Europe's defenses seemed to be Western Germany. Defeated in World War II, the Germans had not been allowed to rebuild an army. But now the communist threat appeared so great that our leaders felt it desirable that Western Germany be allowed to supply troops for the common defense.

It was first proposed that Western Germany contribute some divisions to  
(Continued on page 6)



# Wire Tapping

(Concluded from page 1)

Constitution doesn't say anything specifically about it. There were, of course, no telephones when the document took effect.

The Fourth Amendment—a part of the Bill of Rights and of the Constitution—does say: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated. . . ." Some people argue that this passage should be applied to prohibit wire tapping.

So far, however, the Supreme Court has not declared the practice unconstitutional. In a 1928 decision, it held that the Fourth Amendment did not forbid wire tapping. The decision was by a 5 to 4 vote. If the question comes up again, the Court might or might not reverse its stand.

To what extent do federal agencies use wire tapping? A full answer cannot be given because the process is carried out secretly.

The Justice Department holds that a limited amount of wire tapping is permissible in order to help the FBI catch dangerous criminals. The FBI taps wires only on orders from the Attorney General. It recently was reported that this agency might, on any one day, be operating as many as 200 taps in different parts of the nation. The military services also tap wires in cases where the country's security might be at stake.

Can wire tapping evidence be used in the courts? It cannot be used in our federal courts. It is barred under the Federal Communications Act of 1934, which says:

"No person, not being authorized by the sender, shall intercept any communication and divulge or publish the existence, contents, substance . . . or meaning of such intercepted communication to any person."

The Supreme Court has declared, though, that wire-tap evidence can be used in state courts, if the states themselves so decide. Forty-two states have restricted wire tapping in some manner. Of these, however, only New Jersey and Delaware prohibit the use of wire-tap evidence in their courts.

Other states, including New York and Massachusetts, allow their local law-enforcement agencies to tap wires. In New York, police can tap lines providing they first get a court order to

do so. They must prove to the judge issuing the order that it is reasonable to believe that a crime has been committed.

Is wire tapping used by private individuals or organizations? Yes. It has been—and probably still is—used in politics, business, labor disputes, and personal law suits. Politicians have tapped wires of their political opponents. Lawyers have tapped lines to get evidence for their clients. Businessmen have eavesdropped on their competitors to learn trade secrets. No one knows exactly how many phones are being tapped throughout the country, and there is no way of really finding out.

What happens to anyone who is caught tapping a wire? It is often said that anyone who might have something to gain from tapping a wire can feel free to do so without suffering any penalties. Since the passage of the Federal Communications Act 20 years ago, only one person has been convicted under the so-called wire tapping clause. The case involved a private attorney who persuaded a switchboard girl to let him listen in on someone else's conversation. Technically, it wasn't a wire tapping case at all. He merely got plugged in on another line.

In 1940, Attorney General Robert Jackson (now a Supreme Court Justice) declared: "I do not feel that the Department of Justice can in good conscience prosecute persons for a practice engaged in by the Department itself."

What changes are proposed in the federal wire tapping law? Attorney General Brownell seeks authority to use wire-tap evidence in our federal courts in regard to espionage cases. He says there are cases in the FBI files involving alleged spies, but since some of the evidence was gained by tapping wires, these cases cannot be proved under the present law.

A notable example of how this law can work was seen several years ago. A Department of Justice employee named Judith Coplon was found guilty of stealing U. S. government documents. She is not in jail, however.

The FBI had tapped her phone line and used the wire-tap evidence against her. Since the evidence was used illegally, the verdict against Miss Coplon was reversed. The new law that the Attorney General wants would reportedly make all the government's evidence against Miss Coplon legal and open the way for further prosecution of her case.



"WRONG NUMBER," says this cartoonist, who suggests that wire tapping is undemocratic. The practice is defended by many as necessary to combat crime.

What are the arguments in favor of wire tapping? Some of the views generally advanced are:

"We must not tie the hands of our law-enforcement agencies. Sometimes dangerous spies, kidnapers, and murderers can cover their tracks so well it is practically impossible to 'get the goods on them.' Yet, in telephone conversations, they may let slip some important information that will help police and government agents prove cases against them."

"Wire tapping is not a nice business. But neither are some of the other forms of crime detection, such as shadowing a man's movements or eavesdropping on his conversations through a hotel room wall. There is nothing so sanctified about a phone conversation that we should let a man plot treason or other serious crimes, and then stop the law-enforcement agencies from using his own conversation against him."

J. Edgar Hoover, the Director of the FBI, once summed up his feelings on the issue in these words: "I dare say that the most violent critic of the FBI would urge the use of wire tapping techniques if his child were kidnaped and held as hostage. Certainly there is a great need to protect the country from those who would . . . destroy our institutions and democracy."

What are the arguments against wire tapping? Here are some of the views advanced by those who oppose the practice:

"Tapping telephone conversations is a dirty business. It calls for snooping into the private affairs of our citizens. It might be less distasteful if we were sure it would be used only to help catch criminals. But the fact is, when police officials engage in the practice, they encourage private citizens to do the same."

"The Constitution clearly states that a man must be allowed to feel secure in his own home. How can he feel secure if other people are free to eavesdrop

on his private telephone conversations?

"We are told that law-enforcement officers tap only the wires of suspected spies and other criminals. But since anyone can be suspected of crimes, then anyone's telephone might be tapped. Besides, it is doubtful whether a clever spy would conduct his business over the telephone."

"If we must be subjected to this unethical practice, it should be rigidly controlled so that only authorized persons can engage in it. In order to protect the basic rights of the individual, however, this undemocratic and unconstitutional practice should be done away with altogether."

Many people think the problem might be solved if we had a law which permitted the practice under carefully controlled circumstances. They cite the measure which has now been approved by the U. S. House of Representatives and is awaiting Senate action. Under it, evidence obtained through wire tapping could be used in federal spy trials—if the tapping had been approved in advance by a federal judge.

Attorney General Brownell, meanwhile, doesn't think the consent of a judge should be required. He wants the gathering of FBI wire-tap evidence to be left completely in his hands and those of his successors. As we go to press, it remains to be seen what final action Congress will take on this problem.

In conclusion: The major points of view on wire tapping are these: On one hand, large numbers of people think the practice is so undemocratic that it should be completely forbidden—both to private individuals and government agencies. On the other hand, there are those who view it as a necessary crime-fighting tool when properly controlled. Members of this second group hold that the information gathered through wire tapping should be fully acceptable as evidence in all courts.



JUDITH COPLON and attorney. After being convicted of stealing secret government documents, she was freed from a prison sentence when the courts ruled that wire tapping had been used to get evidence against her.



## SPORTS

**P**ITCHING horseshoes was a favorite pastime of the soldiers of ancient Rome. When the Roman legionnaires occupied Britain some 1,600 years ago, they spent many a pleasant hour, tossing the pieces of curved metal. In recent years, innumerable Roman horseshoes have been dug up in southern England.

The game of horseshoes generally flourished in the armies of all lands. A big reason has been that soldiers, forced to travel light, did not have to carry special equipment for the game. They could always find a few discarded horseshoes around the area where the army's horses were kept. Then only a couple of stakes were required for a few hours' diversion.

British soldiers stationed in the New York area in colonial days are believed to have introduced the game to this country. Nearly all Americans growing up on farms where horses were used have played horseshoes.

The game has changed little over the years. Stakes are driven in the ground 40 feet apart. Standing near one stake, each player tries to toss two horseshoes as close as possible to the other stake. After each of the two players has had his turn, he walks to the stake at which he has been throwing to check the results. Then the two toss the shoes back at the first stake. One can score the most points by ringing the stake.

For many years when a horseshoe actually encircled the stake, it was largely a matter of luck. But George May, a fireman from Akron, Ohio, changed all that about 1920.



HORSESHOE CHAMP Ted Allen

May believed that ringers could be made a matter of skill rather than luck. He experimented in throwing the horseshoe so that it turned slowly in the air and always had the open side forward when it reached the stake. If the throw had been aimed right, a ringer would result.

May got so he could make ringers more than half the time. He walked off with the national championship. Ever since that time, the best horseshoe pitchers have specialized in throwing ringers. Today the leading participants in this sport can score ringers on seven or eight out of every ten shoes thrown. The present champion is Ted Allen of Boulder, Colorado. He became world champ for the seventh time by winning last year's tournament at Murray, Utah.

Horseshoe pitching received much publicity a few years ago when Harry Truman was President. Mr. Truman occasionally relaxed by pitching a few horseshoes on the White House lawn.



STREET leading to the railway station in Luxembourg, capital of the little country of Luxembourg—smallest of the nations that will make up the European Defense Community, if it goes into operation

### SMALLEST OF THE EDC LANDS

## Luxembourg—Wealthy Democracy

**WE** HEAR a good deal from day to day about Italy, France, West Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands—countries linked in the planned EDC (see page 1). They are frequently in the news.

Of the sixth nation in the EDC plan, Luxembourg, we hear very little. American tourists like to visit Luxembourg, true, and usually they find it very interesting. The land is an important industrial center, but it goes quietly about its business, and only rarely shows up in the headlines.

What, then, is Luxembourg like? It is small—smallest of the six EDC countries. Its area of 999 square miles is about a third less than that of Rhode Island—our smallest state. Much of the land is made up of pleasant valleys, especially in the south. In the north, there are some fairly high hills.

### The Language

Population of Luxembourg is around 300,000—less than that of Birmingham, Alabama. More than a fifth of the people—62,000—live in the city of Luxembourg—which is capital of the country. The people speak a language they call *Letzeburgesch*. It is based on German, but also contains many French and Belgian-Flemish words.

The country is rich in iron ore. The ore has made possible one of the largest iron and steel industries in Europe. Luxembourg normally ranks sixth among European steel-producing nations—after England, Germany, France, Belgium, and Czechoslovakia. The iron and steel industries are a major source of income for Luxembourg.

This little land also has an extensive banking and investment business, and owns an interest in industries in Germany and other countries. In addition, Luxembourg is well known for its high quality leather gloves, and manufactures textiles, paper, and malt products, and refines sugar. Farms grow most of the food that the country needs.

The living standard is one of the highest in Europe. The people have enough food, their housing is good (although there is a shortage of apartments in the capital at present), taxes are low, and almost everyone has a job.

Schools are excellent, and everyone must go to school between the ages of 6 and 13. A good many young people go on through high school, and quite a number attend college. It is not at all unusual to meet Luxembourgers who speak excellent English, and, likely as not, they also will speak French and German.

Sports are much the same as those in neighboring Germany, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands. The Luxembourgers are fond of bicycling, hiking, boating, swimming, tennis, and European-type football (soccer).

Luxembourg, the city, is one of the most attractive tourist spots in Europe. It was a walled fortress town as early as the 900's, and one may still see parts of old walls. An ancient stone bridge over a deep ravine connects two parts of the hilly city. A 16th century cathedral, a huge palace, and many other old-style stone buildings add to Luxembourg's charm. There are modern buildings and factories also, but most of them are in suburban areas.

Luxembourg was a part of the ancient Roman Empire and, after 1437, was variously ruled by Austria, Spain, France, Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands. The small nation's independence dates from 1890, when rule by the Netherlands came to an end.

The government is a democratically run monarchy. Grand Duchess Charlotte is the ruler in name, but a premier carries out the executive duties of government, and an elected parliament has existed since 1868.



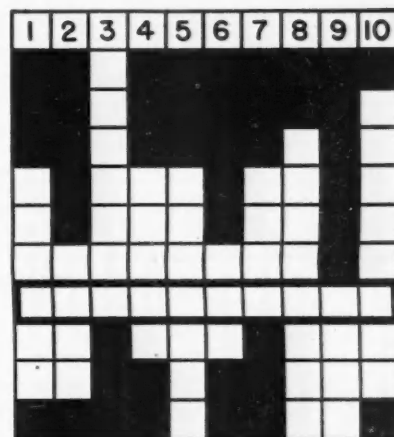
DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

## Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are on page 8, column 4.

1. He was a *litigant* (lit'i-gānt). (a) great help (b) hindrance (c) newcomer (d) person engaged in a lawsuit.
2. The king was *deposed* (dē-pōzd') by a group of army officers. (a) welcomed (b) set on the throne (c) removed from the throne (d) murdered.
3. It was well-known as a *lethal* (lē'thawl) gas. (a) odorless (b) colorless (c) harmless (d) deadly.
4. He achieved his fame as a *linguist* (ling'gwist). (a) fighter (b) scholar (c) person skilled in languages (d) person skilled in the arts.
5. He was known to all as a *miscreant* (mīs'krē-ānt). (a) rascal (b) likable person (c) extremely stingy person (d) very funny comedian.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE



Fill in numbered vertical rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell the name of one of the countries willing to join the European Defense Community (EDC).

1. Judith \_\_\_\_\_, convicted of stealing secret government documents, was released from prison when the courts ruled that wire-tap evidence had been used against her.
2. French General \_\_\_\_\_ (last name) was removed from a high position in France's defense planning council because he opposed EDC.
3. The one word used to identify three small countries included in EDC plan.
4. The Department of Justice wants a law permitting use of wire-tap evidence in cases involving \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ are a people whose country is now divided. One part is communist. The other, a republic, is a prospective member of EDC.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ (initials) often taps wires to get crime evidence.
7. In the event of war, troops, in EDC would be assigned to help \_\_\_\_\_ (initials).
8. French General Charles \_\_\_\_\_, World War II hero, hopes to overthrow France's present regime by attacking its EDC policy.
9. Capital city of the southernmost European nation to be included in EDC, if it goes into operation.
10. The Netherlands government carries on its affairs in two cities. One is Amsterdam. The other is \_\_\_\_\_.

### Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Mao Tse-tung. VERTICAL: 1. Formosa; 2. Korea; 3. Indochina; 4. Molotov; 5. Dulles; 6. "new look"; 7. Australia; 8. Bidault; 9. Eden; 10. Chiang.



# The Story of the Week

## Soviet Science

We should not underestimate Russia's scientific achievements, says Eric Ashby, an Australian scientist who has visited the Soviet Union. Writing in the *New York Times Magazine*, Mr. Ashby expresses these views:

In 1945, Russian scientists were far behind us in the technical field. They had poorly equipped laboratories. Today, the Soviets have the latest scientific equipment. Within a few short years, they have mastered the difficult job of turning out atomic and hydrogen weapons.

How did this change come about? Russia has been training new scientists and technicians at a furious pace. Since the end of World War II, the Soviets have devoted a huge share of their country's wealth to the expansion of science—especially in the field of weapons. They have forced their people to endure low living standards to enable the regime to carry out this program.

It is a mistake for western leaders to assume that Soviet scientists are inferior to ours in training and ability. Actually, if Russia's progress in science continues at the present rate of growth, she may soon outstrip us. Red scientists, though hampered by government restrictions, are given more freedom to experiment than we realize.

How can we meet this challenge of Soviet scientific progress? The western nations, Mr. Ashby believes, should unite on the scientific front just as they have joined forces on the military front. We must do all we can to stay in the forefront of scientific achievement, or the Soviets will become an ever greater threat to the free world.

## Crime Rate Goes Up

A total of more than two million crimes were committed last year, the FBI reports. This figure represents an increase of 120,000 crimes over those reported for the previous year.

Persons under 21 years of age, according to the report, were responsible for about 15 per cent of all crimes committed in 1953. Nearly half of all per-



**WAR IS HARD** on the Indochina front. The soldier at left is using a modern "pancake" detector to search for mines laid by the Reds. That's dangerous enough. But the soldier

at right is using just a plain stick in the risky search. Even with U. S. and French help, the anti-Red forces in Indochina are short of many kinds of military equipment.

sons arrested for auto thefts were under 18 years of age!

The FBI says that armed robbers and burglars stole more than 92 million dollars in money and goods, and car thieves took more than 226,000 autos last year. Criminal activities, according to the federal crime agency, were responsible for the deaths of nearly 13,000 persons, and caused serious bodily injuries to an additional 92,600 individuals.

## "Operation Walkout"

How can crowded cities best safeguard their people in case of a hydrogen bomb attack? The Federal Civil Defense Administration, a government office that advises state and local leaders on defense matters, answers that question with these words: Large communities should move their citizens out of the city as quickly as possible when

an alert of an impending raid is given.

The nation's home defense office is now asking city officials throughout the country to (1) make a full study of how many people must be moved in case of an air attack, what transportation facilities are available for this purpose, and how the evacuees can be cared for; (2) tell each resident exactly what must be done if trouble should come; and (3) set up a group responsible for carrying out evacuation plans swiftly when an emergency arises.

One of the first large-scale evacuation experiments was carried out a few days ago by Spokane, Washington. Civil defense officials are now studying the results of that plan, called "Operation Walkout."

Meanwhile, next June 14 and 15, the entire nation will take part in a special home defense test. Officials want to find out how well we could defend ourselves in case of an enemy attack, and how well our communications system would stand up under bombing raids. During the test, defense leaders will pretend that 43 of our leading cities are under air attack.

## High School "Lawmakers"

Congress faces many problems that we seldom think about. That's what members of the American Problems class of Hamilton High School, Hamilton, Ohio, found out when they organized a mock "Congress" in their school.

First, the Hamilton High students learned how bills are prepared and they studied the steps a measure must go through before it can become law. Officers, such as Speaker of the House and parliamentarian, were chosen. Then, each student wrote up a bill and dropped it into the legislative "hopper."

During the lively debates on various legislative proposals, the students learned something about the many complicated rules under which our Congress operates. Though they agreed

that congressional regulations often seem to slow down work on Capitol Hill, the student "congressmen" felt that such rules of procedure are needed to prevent "bad" bills from being passed by our lawmakers.

Only one bill passed the entire "Congress." That was a measure for admitting Hawaii as a state. The class wrote letters to Ohio senators and representatives asking them to support the Hawaiian statehood bill.

## Women in Armed Forces

Within a few weeks, an estimated 1½ million young Americans will get their high school diplomas. Some of these boys and girls will go on to college or other schools. About 900 thousand of them are expected to be looking for full-time jobs after graduation. If you are a girl and expect to be a job-hunter this year, you may want to look over the employment opportunities offered by our military forces.

The Defense Department reminds all girls that there are many different kinds of jobs open to them in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. Besides a long list of clerical and administrative tasks, women in the armed forces also work as photographers, weather forecasters, and air traffic dispatchers. Other skilled persons needed by the nation's fighting teams include nurses, dietitians, physical and occupational therapists.

The services offer training in a variety of fields. If you can qualify, you will be given a chance to secure specialized training in a skill of your choice after you sign up for duty.

The Defense Department has prepared a number of booklets on opportunities for women in the military forces which are available free of cost. They include, "It's a Big Decision," "Your Daughter's Role in Today's World," and "Four Futures." You can get these pamphlets and other information about a career in the services by writing to the Department of



**RANCHER-SENATOR.** Meet Mrs. Eve Bowring, 62, and her favorite horse, Trinket, on her 10,000-acre Nebraska ranch. She's run the ranch since her husband's death nine years ago. She recently was appointed to the Senate to succeed the late Senator Dwight Griswold—who died in Washington, D. C., last month.



Defense, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for the booklets by title.

## Lobbyist Spending

Those people who work as lobbyists, trying to get support for their ideas in Congress and in other legislative bodies, are required to report on how much they spend in their efforts to influence the decisions of Congress.

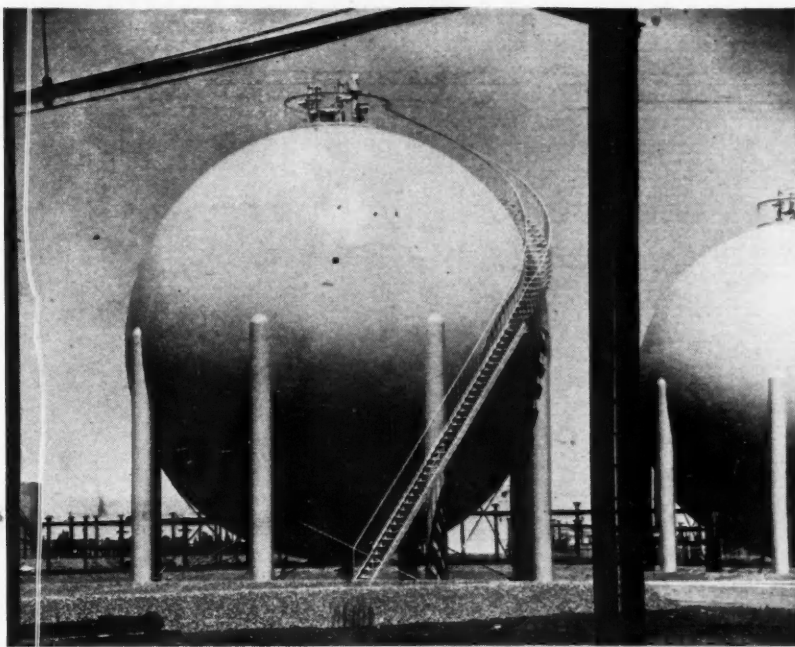
According to the latest figures, lobbyists spent about 4½ billion dollars for their work last year. Some 19 organizations paid out more than \$50,000 apiece in lobbying activities. A few of the "big spenders" are: The National Association of Electric Companies, nearly \$550,000; the Association of American Railroads, over \$235,000; the National Milk Producers' Association, over \$233,000; and the American Federation of Labor, a little more than \$123,500.

## Army, Cohn, McCarthy

The Army-Cohn-McCarthy hearings have been providing the biggest headlines on the home front in recent days. The central question, as we all know by now, is whether Cohn and McCarthy tried to win special privileges in the Army for Private David Schine, former investigator for the McCarthy Committee and now serving a two-year period in the armed forces.

The most important disclosure in the early stage of the inquiry was that the Army had "monitored" all its telephone calls from the Wisconsin Senator and Cohn; in other words, it had assigned someone to listen in and write down the conversations. A heated debate was in process last week as to whether this monitored evidence could be legally presented to the committee.

At the same time, Senator McCarthy and Assistant Defense Secretary Struve Hensel were engaging in a bitter duel of words. The Wisconsin Senator led off with an attack on Hensel, accusing him of trying to impede the work of the McCarthy Investigating Committee and charging him with



**INDUSTRY TURNS TO BEAUTY.** These Cities Service storage tanks are an example of new industrial architecture that gets away from old-style, often ugly installations.

using his position in the Navy Department during World War II to further his private interests.

Mr. Hensel called this a "malicious lie," and said that if McCarthy would waive his senatorial immunity, which protects him from being sued, he (Hensel) would take legal action against the Senator. Hensel also requested that a complete public investigation be made of both his and McCarthy's private and financial affairs.

## Cost of Defense and Aid

The House of Representatives—the branch of Congress in which money bills get their start—is now debating two important appropriations measures. One has to do with defense spending, the other, foreign aid.

President Eisenhower has asked Congress to set aside more than 40 billion dollars for defense in the bookkeeping year beginning next July 1.

This figure includes over 10 billion dollars for the Army, 10½ billion for the Navy, and more than 16 billion for the Air Force.

The White House has also called for 3½ billion dollars in military and economic aid to other nations. Recently, the President proposed that we distribute our foreign aid funds as follows: Indochina, well over 1 billion dollars; Formosa, South Korea, and other Far Eastern lands, more than 500 million; Europe, slightly under 1 billion; the Middle East and Africa, about 500 million; Latin America, nearly 50 million; and other countries, about 160 million.

Meanwhile, the House has already voted some funds, needed by the government to carry on its work, totaling more than 11½ billion dollars. As of this writing, the Senate has not yet acted on these money bills.

## Around the Globe

The Senate now has a second woman member—Mrs. Eve Bowring, Republican of Nebraska. The other feminine senator is Republican Margaret Chase Smith of Maine. A 62-year-old ranch operator and GOP leader in her state, Mrs. Bowring was appointed to the Senate by Nebraska's Governor Robert Crosby to replace the late Senator Dwight Griswold. She will serve until a new election can be held next November.

European communists are losing ground, according to a recent U. S. government report. In certain countries, such as Denmark and Norway, communist party membership is said to have dropped by more than 60 per cent within the past eight years. The report indicates that communism has also been losing strength in France and Italy—two countries where the Reds have been especially powerful in recent years.

The world had some 30 million more people in mid-1952 than it had the previous year, says a United Nations study group. The UN body points out that if the present rate of population growth continues, our globe will have twice as many people 70 years from now as it has at present. The world's

population now stands at about 2½ billion people.

Portugal owns tiny bits of territory along the western coast of India which the Asiatic country wants. These areas, which include Goa, Diu, and Damao, remained under Portuguese control after India became independent in 1947. India charges that Portugal is mistreating those persons living in the colonies who want to unite with the Asiatic land. Portugal denies these charges, saying that most Indians under her rule want things to remain as they are. Both sides are bitter over the dispute.

Egypt's future is still uncertain. A short time ago, Colonel Abdel Nasser took over as premier once more. Earlier this year, Nasser acted as premier after ousting General Mohammed Naguib from that post. Because of a widespread demand for the return of Naguib as leader of Egypt, Nasser temporarily stepped down as premier, only to resume power last month. As of this writing, it is not known how long Nasser will be able to hold his position of leadership.

Relations between Australia and Russia were near the breaking point last week. The trouble started early in April when a high-ranking Soviet intelligence officer, Vladimir Petrov, turned himself in to Australian authorities. He offered to give them information about a Russian spy ring in that country.

A short time later, Soviet agents seized Petrov's wife and tried to take her to Russia by plane, but the Australian police forced them to free her. Russia at first announced she was breaking diplomatic relations with Australia, but then for some reason changed her mind at least temporarily. The final result is still unknown as we go to press.



**BIG FISH, small boy.** Billy Brown of Manteo, North Carolina, is holding a 38-pound channel bass which he recently landed with rod and reel.

## Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments arise, next week's two major articles will deal with (1) the drought problem in certain farm areas, and (2) Mexico.

"Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome."

—SAMUEL JOHNSON

## THE LIGHTER SIDE

She: "I've changed my mind."

He: "I hope it works better than the old one."

★

An angry man, having trouble with the telephone, bellowed at the operator, "Am I crazy, or are you?"

"I'm sorry, sir," she replied in her sweetest voice, "but we are not allowed to give out that information."



WHITING IN SATURDAY EVENING POST  
"I'm becoming weary of that 'Oh, brother' business, young man!"

Said the sophomore: "When I first came here I was pretty conceited, but the other students knocked that out of me and now I'm one of the nicest fellows in the whole college."

★

When the white men came to this country, the Indians were running it. There were no taxes. There was no debt. The women did all the work. And just think—the white men thought they could improve on a system like that!

★

A lady was amazed to see a man and a dog playing checkers together.

Lady: "That dog would make a fortune for you in the movies or on the stage."

Man: "Oh, he isn't so smart. I've beaten him four out of five games."

★

"If someone left you a million dollars, what would you do?"

"Hire six good lawyers, and try to get it."





EUROPEAN DEFENSE COMMUNITY countries (in black). Except for West Germany, EDC nations belong to NATO. The NATO members also include Britain, Denmark, Greece, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, Canada, and the

United States. The NATO organization was formed in 1949 for the defense of Europe against communist aggression. In the event of war, troops proposed for EDC would be expected to fight under the military command of NATO.

## EDC Proposal

(Continued from page 1)

NATO just as the U. S., Britain, and other countries were doing. Objections arose, however, particularly from France. To contribute troops to NATO, Germany—it was pointed out—would first have to form an army. France and other lands that had suffered from German aggression did not want a German army.

How could Germany supply manpower for western Europe's defenses, yet not have an army of its own? Rene Plevin, then the Premier and now the Defense Minister of France, suggested that an international army be set up. Since it would be under international control, the Germans would have no need to build up a staff of military planners who might scheme aggression. German soldiers would merely be part of the troops under an international staff.

Plevin's idea was regarded as a good solution to the problem. Shortly thereafter, foreign ministers of the six nations approved the project.

Yet today the European army is still only a blueprint on paper. Why? What are the obstacles in the way of a common defense force? Can they be surmounted?

U. S. leaders consider France the chief heel-dragging nation. Old fears, nationalism, and political quarrels have

kept the French from approving EDC.

A major obstacle is the age-old fear that the French have for their German neighbors. Three times in the last 85 years, German armies have overrun France, laying waste to many parts of the country. Great numbers of Frenchmen have died, defending their homeland against the invaders. Thus, it is hardly surprising that many Frenchmen are opposed to letting Germans rearm under any conditions.

The ancient fear of Germany blinds many of the French to the serious threat posed by communist Russia and her satellites. Moreover, a number of people in that country feel that the danger of communist aggression has lessened greatly. French communists try, of course, to encourage this view.

### De Gaulle's View

Some groups in France claim that the nation's sovereignty will be threatened if it puts its troops in a European army under international control. General Charles de Gaulle, leader of the French resistance forces in World War II, holds this view. De Gaulle has a considerable following, though it is not as sizable as it was a few years ago.

Marshal Alphonse-Pierre Juin, France's top military man, entertains much the same opinions as does de Gaulle. A few weeks ago Juin came out in strong opposition to EDC, and demanded that it be replaced by a program which would give France more control over its own forces. Because of his attack on EDC, Juin was re-

moved from some of his military jobs. The uproar that followed his removal showed that he had much backing.

Another stumbling block to French approval of EDC is the Saar problem. Lying between France and Germany, the Saar is a tiny, oval-shaped bit of land smaller than Rhode Island. Its importance stems from its large supplies of coal and its production of steel.

Over the years, the Saar has changed hands a number of times. Just before World War II, it belonged to Germany. Afterwards, France took it over. Today it is tied to neither country politically, but has close economic ties with France. Nevertheless, France and Germany have not agreed on its final status.

Before France agrees to approve the EDC treaty, she says that the Saar question must be settled. She wants to make sure that this region with its coal and steel will not again wind up in German hands. She wishes it to become an international territory, but wants to have certain trading privileges there.

West Germany has, in the past, been reluctant to give up its claim on the Saar. A great many people in the Saar are of German descent, and Germans have generally felt that the area more rightfully belongs to Germany than to France. Since the present West German leaders are anxious to make the European army a going concern, though, it is hoped that they will take a reasonable attitude about the Saar in coming talks. If this problem can

be worked out, it is thought that the EDC treaty may come before the French lawmakers for final debate later this month.

Italy is the other nation which must give final approval to the European army. To Italians, Trieste is as much of a stumbling block as the Saar is to the French.

Trieste, a tiny territory at the head of the Adriatic Sea, has belonged to one country and another over the years. Today both Italy and Yugoslavia claim it. American and British troops occupy the northern part of Trieste, while Yugoslav forces hold the southern portion.

### Yugoslavia's Reaction

Last fall we promised to turn the northern part over to Italy, but Yugoslavia reacted so violently that we decided, in the interests of peace, to continue the occupation for a time. Now Italy is demanding that the status of Trieste be settled once and for all before she gives final approval to EDC.

To be sure, Premier Mario Scelba of Italy claims that his government is not tying the two issues of Trieste and EDC together. Nonetheless, many lawmakers in Italy are doing just that. They say that if their country agrees to put its troops into a European army, then Italy will not be able to protect its rights in Trieste in case of armed conflict with Yugoslavia. Thus, they contend that settlement of the Trieste problem is necessary before EDC can be approved.



Italy's big communist party is determined to defeat EDC. It is planning to use every means of delay possible when the issue comes before parliament. The communists are telling their countrymen that EDC is a threat to Italian independence. This is, to say the least, an ironic view, for Italy's communists really want to defeat EDC so that they can more easily deliver their nation to Soviet control.

Despite these obstacles, there seems to be substantial support for the European army among Italy's lawmakers. Western leaders are hopeful that the plan will be brought before parliament soon.

The Soviet Union, of course, is pulling all possible strings to defeat EDC. The Russians may make a bold bid at the Geneva conference to block the proposed organization, which is a big obstacle to their plans of having communists take control of western Europe. It is believed that the Soviet Union might try to induce France to give up her membership in the European army in return, perhaps, for an armistice in Indochina. U. S. leaders intend to stand firm against such a proposal.

Last month both the United States and Great Britain took steps intended to encourage France to approve EDC. American leaders agreed to keep armed forces in Europe so long as a threat to that area exists. This move is intended to reassure France that we will not permit Germany to dominate the European army.

#### Britain Cooperates

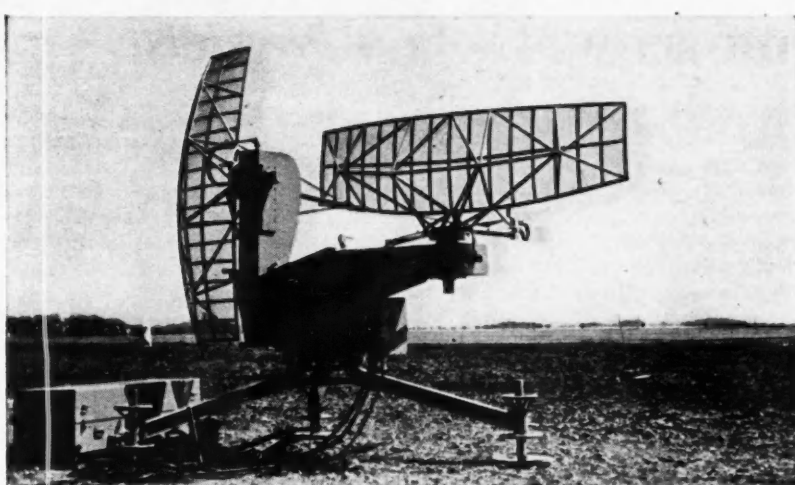
Great Britain has refused to join EDC because she thinks she has enough responsibilities as a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. (This is an organization to which Britain and such former possessions of hers as Canada, Australia, South Africa, and others belong.) Nevertheless, the British have pledged to cooperate closely with EDC members.

Last month Britain took further steps to reassure France that Germany would not get the upper hand in the European army, and to encourage France to approve the organization. The British promised to assign an armored division and units of her air force to the European army, even though she will not actually become a member.

We in the United States hope that these recent moves will speed final approval of EDC. A strong, united, free Europe is essential to our own security. We believe that a common army is a vital step toward making western Europe strong and secure. We are convinced that it would deter the communist lands from further aggression in that area.

Moreover, we regard EDC as a forward step in the direction of western European unity. We firmly believe that the countries of western Europe must cooperate along many lines if that region is to become strong and prosperous once more. The six countries in the EDC plan are already working together along economic lines. They sell coal and steel to one another on a tariff-free basis. If they form a common army, that will be another big step toward European unity.

Our leaders are making EDC the cornerstone of U. S. policy in western Europe. They feel that there is no better approach to assure freedom and security for this region. They fervently hope that the French and Italians will come around to this view without too much delay.



**NEW SAFETY AID** for small airports. This radar set, less complicated and cheaper than machines used by big city terminals, may be used to help planes land on small fields in bad weather. The manufacturer—Boston Laboratory for Electronics—says that the new equipment will aid smaller towns and cities in the hard competition for air freight and passenger business.

## Science in the News

**T**HE French government is undertaking a gigantic redevelopment project in the Sahara, where it hopes to reclaim 75,000 acres of the desert within 6 years.

The French plan to tap a vast lake beneath the desert for irrigation purposes. The underground lake covers an area of 400,000 square miles, more than 7 times the area of Illinois. It could supply enough water to last for an indefinite period of time.

In 1948, a well bored in the desert reached fresh water at 3,400 feet, and the water gushed out like a geyser. Since then the lake has been tapped at several places. The Foreign Legion has since then used these oases for posts on its caravan route across the vast desert.

The French government hopes to create 1,500 oases of about 500 acres each. Every oasis will be planted with 120 date palm trees sufficient to support a group of five persons.

If the plans to restore the Sahara work out, 150,000 Arab nomads will become farmers. The Sahara, which is about the size of the United States,

has a roving population of 5 million tribesmen who barely make a living.

★

An emergency hospital ambulance recently demonstrated in Los Angeles, California, how it can change traffic signal lights by remote control. An electronic beam in the ambulance snapped green traffic lights to red as it sped through a crowded downtown section of the city.

The experimental electronic traffic control system was designed by North American Aviation. It consists of a small radio transmitter which passes the stop message to a midget weather-proof receiver on an intersection traffic signal. The receiver cuts into the timing of the traffic lights and makes certain all are red and stay that way for the ambulance until five seconds after it has cleared the crossing. When the emergency is over, the signals go back to their regular timing.

The device automatically clears intersections up to a quarter of a mile ahead of a racing ambulance, police car, or fire truck.

## Our Readers Say—

In your article on congressional investigations, the following statement appeared as an opinion of Senator McCarthy's supporters: "Besides, what if a few people are treated unjustly? The main point is that communists must be exposed and driven from positions of influence."

People who think along these lines constitute our real danger. They endanger the security of our country by employing methods in fighting communism that the Reds themselves use against others. The concept that "the end justifies the means" is a communist one. How can anyone call himself a patriotic American if he subjects his fellow Americans to the same kind of unfair treatment that communists use against the unfortunate people under their rule?

SUE YOUNG,  
East Orange, New Jersey

★

I think Senator McCarthy has the right idea of how to get rid of communists within our borders. He is doing a good service for his country. If more Americans would give him support in his crusade against the Reds, and if fewer persons would criticize his work, he would soon free our nation of all communists. He has done an extremely good job against overwhelming odds, and deserves a lot of credit.

OWEN BRILL,  
Eldorado, Illinois

I disagree with reader Kenny Morris when he says that girls should pay their own way on a date. When a boy goes out with a girl, he should pay the bill. It is a time-honored custom for the man to pay expenses on dates. Most boys and girls I have talked with on this subject agree with my view. After all, girls have to keep up with new styles in clothes, and they have many expenses that boys don't have to meet.

PAT GUGLIELMO,  
Passaic, New Jersey

★

Reader Robert McMahon thinks that only people who have high school diplomas should be given the right to vote. I disagree. What about persons who are unable, because of financial reasons, to finish high school? Would it be fair to deprive them of the ballot? At election time, we want the views of all our citizens expressed at the polls. Too few of them vote as it is.

HELEN BONA,  
Concord, Vermont

★

In our school, we select a committee of three or four students each week to report on current problems. Every time there is a public meeting in our town, one or two students attend the meeting and report back to our school.

MARILYN CURRY,  
Wellsville, New York

## Personality

### John Kennedy

**D**EMOCRATIC Senator John Kennedy, who will be 37 at the end of this month, is one of the youngest members of the U. S. Senate. Only Senator Russell Long of Louisiana, also a Democrat, is younger (by 1½ years) than Kennedy.

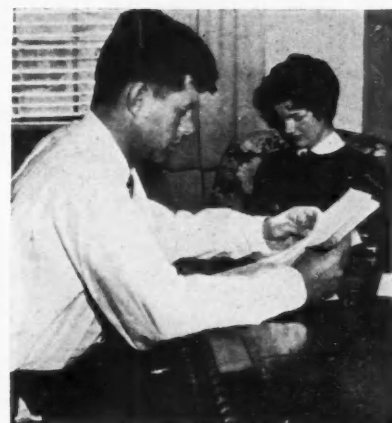
Despite his youth, the Massachusetts lawmaker has won the respect of his colleagues in the Senate. Even GOP legislators, who often disagree with the youthful senator's views, have commended him for his fair and mature judgment in dealing with thorny issues in Congress.

Kennedy was elected to the Senate in November, 1952. He won out over his Republican opponent, Henry Cabot Lodge, who is now our chief representative at the United Nations.

Born in Brookline, Massachusetts, of wealthy parents, Kennedy studied economics at Harvard University. Before finishing his college course, he spent some time in England working for his father, Joseph Kennedy, who was then our ambassador in London. After he returned from Britain, and while he was still in his senior year at Harvard, young Kennedy wrote "Why England Slept." An analysis of why Britain was unprepared for World War II, the book became a best-seller.

In 1941, Kennedy enlisted in the Navy. He served for four years in the Pacific during the grueling sea war against Japan. Because of injuries received in the fighting, he was discharged from service in 1945.

Then, Kennedy fulfilled his biggest ambition up to that time—he went to work as a newspaperman. But when his older brother, Joseph, was killed in an air accident over the English Channel, John Kennedy changed his



SENATOR John Kennedy and his wife

plans. He decided that it was up to him to continue the tradition that a member of his family hold a public office—a tradition that goes back almost to the time the first Kennedys came to the U. S. from Ireland in the mid-1800's.

In 1946, at the age of 29, Kennedy ran for the U. S. House of Representatives and won. He was re-elected to the House in 1948, again in 1950, and won his Senate seat two years later.

A six-foot tall, lean man with a bumper crop of lightly combed hair, Senator Kennedy looks even younger than he is. In fact, many lawmakers mistook him to be a page, or Capitol Hill messenger, when he first became a legislator. He lives with his wife, a newspaperwoman, in an old restored home in the Georgetown section of the nation's capital.



## Careers for Tomorrow - - As a Physicist

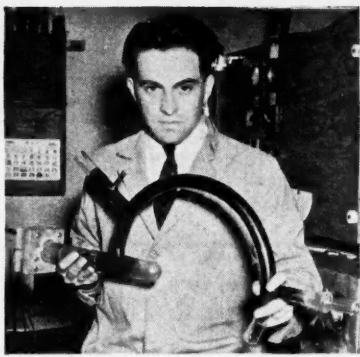
**DO YOU** spend a good deal of time experimenting with electrical and mechanical gadgets? Are you well above average in your studies of mathematics and science? Can you read rather abstract scientific discussions with some understanding? If you can answer "yes" to these questions, you probably have the qualifications needed to become a physicist.

**Your duties**, if you choose this field, may include teaching, working on research projects, or both. As a researcher, the physicist is a *theoretical* scientist in contrast to the engineer, who is an *applied* scientist. The physicist is primarily interested in discovering new scientific principles, while the engineer is chiefly concerned with putting scientific knowledge to practical use.

There are many different branches of work in which physicists specialize. Some test the strength and quality of materials needed by industry. Others deal with problems related to electronics—radio, television, and radar. Still others work with the properties of the atom and nuclear reactions, or engage in other research work.

**Your training** should include a college preparatory course in high school, and at least four years of study in a college or university. In addition, a Ph.D., which takes four or five years' study beyond the regular college course, is almost a necessity. (A reading knowledge of at least one foreign language, usually French or German, is required for the Ph.D.)

While you are in college, or later as a graduate student, you may get a chance to do some semi-professional work in the field to help pay your way. Colleges frequently employ advanced students as laboratory assistants; universities have teaching positions that are filled by graduate students; and industrial laboratories frequently employ such students to do more or less routine work.



PHYSICIST in his laboratory

**Job opportunities** for persons trained in this field are available in teaching, in federal and state government posts, and in private industry. Manufacturers of such items as glass, paper, petroleum products, plastics, rubber, and textiles, as well as the more obvious ones—steel, radios, and electric power—employ physicists to do abstract research in fields related to their work.

The U. S. Department of Labor, in

a recent study, declared that job opportunities for physical scientists are likely to remain good for a number of years to come. The government office points out that there has been a shortage of trained personnel in this field ever since World War II.

Women, as well as men, can have successful careers as physicists.

**Your income** is likely to be well above average. In the federal government, salaries range from \$3,410 to about \$14,000 a year. In private industry, they start at about \$3,500 and can go to \$25,000 or more a year. Almost without exception, the highest salaries in the field go to persons who have Ph.D.'s.

**Advantages and disadvantages** that this field offers will depend largely on yourself. A career as physicist provides opportunities for professional development that are limited only by a person's ability and resourcefulness. But it requires a long period of preparation, attention to detail, and hour upon hour of hard mental work. Whether these factors constitute advantages or disadvantages depends on the extent of your interest in the subject.

**Further information** may be secured from the American Institute of Physics, 57 East 55th Street, New York 22, N. Y. An occupational brief entitled "The Job of the Physicist" (M101.28:39) can be obtained for 5 cents in coin from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

## Study Guide

### Wire Tapping

1. How do present methods of wire tapping differ from those employed many years ago?
2. What has the Supreme Court said about the constitutionality of wire tapping?
3. Name some federal agencies that tap wires. For what purposes do private citizens sometimes resort to this practice?
4. In general, which courts admit evidence that has been obtained through wire tapping?
5. Describe the new law, with respect to wire tapping, that Attorney General Brownell seeks. What does he dislike about the measure that the House of Representatives has passed?
6. Give some arguments used for and against the practice of wire tapping.

### Discussion

1. Do you favor the use of wire tapping under any circumstances? Why or why not?
2. In your opinion, should evidence obtained by wire tapping be admitted in federal court trials? Give reasons for your answer.

### European Army

1. Describe the setup of the European Defense Community.
2. What must be done before the European army becomes a reality?
3. Tell how the EDC plan happened to be put forth.
4. In what ways are old fears delaying approval of EDC in France?
5. Describe how the Saar problem is also holding up French approval.
6. Why is Italy dragging its heels on EDC?
7. What steps have the U. S. and Britain recently taken to bolster support for the European army?
8. Why are U. S. leaders supporting EDC so strongly?

### Discussion

1. Do you think that the French are justified in their fears regarding German membership in EDC? Why or why not?
2. If France and Italy should fail to approve the European army, what course—if any—do you think the United States should take in trying to make western Europe secure and strong? Explain.

### Miscellaneous

1. What does Eric Ashby, writing in the *New York Times Magazine*, have to say about Soviet science?
2. Was there more or less crime in the United States during 1953 than in the preceding year?
3. What does the federal Civil Defense Administration say is the best protection for city people in case of a bombing attack?
4. Name several of the organizations which spend large sums of money for lobbying purposes in the nation's capital.
5. Why is Mrs. Eve Bowring in the news at the present time?

### References

- "The Hot Wire-Tapping Debate . . . For and Against . . ." by Senators Homer Ferguson and Wayne Morse, *Newsweek*, January 11, 1954.
- "Why U. S. Put Heat on Allies," and "What Dulles Said to the French," *U. S. News & World Report*, December 25, 1953.

### Pronunciations

- Alphonse-Pierre Juin—äl-fawns' pyër zhvân
- Charles de Gaulle—shär'l' duh göl'
- Letzeburgesch—lät'zuh-böör-gësh
- Naguib—nä-gëb'
- Rene Pleven—ruh-né' plë-vën'

### Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (d) person engaged in a lawsuit; 2. (c) removed from the throne; 3. (d) deadly; 4. (c) person skilled in languages; 5. (a) rascal.

## Historical Backgrounds--Our World Role

**SECRETARY** of State John Foster Dulles is trying hard to get six nations in Europe to set up EDC—European Defense Community (see page 1 article) to help check communist aggression. He is also working for a new East Asian alliance to defend that part of the globe against communism.

The efforts being made on behalf of EDC and an Asian alliance are two current examples of growing U. S. activity in world affairs. There are other examples. Never in past history have we taken so great a part as now in planning world-wide defense programs before being engaged in major war.

We belong to the 14-nation NATO (see page 1). We are joined with the 20 republics of Latin America in a general defense agreement. In addition, we have numerous agreements with individual countries—with Canada, Spain, Australia, and others.

The story of military agreements was quite different during our early history. George Washington, in 1796, outlined the policy that we followed most of the time up to World War II. We should, Washington said, "steer clear of permanent alliances" with foreign nations insofar as it is possible to do so. We endeavored to keep out of wars by being neutral—that is, by not taking sides in international disputes.

We did fight against Britain, Mexico, and Spain before 1900—but these conflicts were of short duration. For the most part, we were free to build up our democracy and prosperity with little interference from other nations.

Conditions and our foreign policy

began to change during and after World War I. When that conflict began in Europe in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson declared that we would keep out of the fight. Later, though, German submarine attacks on our ships—which the Germans would not stop—contributed to our entering the war on the side of Britain and France in 1917.

President Wilson became convinced that the U. S. must henceforth play a big role in world affairs. He worked for the League of Nations, a world organization set up to keep peace after World War I. Wilson wanted the U. S. to join the League and take an active part in solving international problems. The Senate voted "no."



**PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON** tried hard to get the U. S. to play a big role in international affairs after World War I was brought to a conclusion

During the 1920's we turned back toward a policy of neutrality in world affairs. We did make agreements with Britain, France, and other nations to reduce naval armaments—in the hope that fewer warships and smaller naval guns would help discourage wars. We signed a 15-nation pact making war unlawful. We protested acts of aggression by Japan against China in the 1930's. But we avoided military agreements that would compel us to fight with other nations against aggression.

We were still keeping free of defensive agreements when World War II began in Europe in 1939. Japan attacked us in 1941, however, and forced us into the war. We quickly became allies of Britain, France, and other free nations.

After World War II, we joined the United Nations, hoping that it would be able to maintain peace (as the old League had not been able to do). When Russia showed that she was bent on communist conquest, we began sending arms to help free nations combat the Reds. We joined NATO, as noted above, and are continuing to seek new defense agreements.

Some Americans think that we have gone too far, that we have made too many promises to help check aggression. Other Americans say that we must keep expanding our alliances, that we must work with *all* the free world to stop communism. One thing seems clear—the U. S. is taking a lead in international defense planning that few persons could have foreseen 20 years ago.